GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:501
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2005
PLANTATION OF JETROPHA
Prasad Shri Hari Kewal;Rana Shri Kashi Ram

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways has started plantation of jetropha on its land to support the production of biodiesel;

(b) if so, the production of jetropha during each of the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken for more production of jetropha on unused land of Railways in the future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) & (b) : Yes Sir, Railways have taken up plantation of `Jatropha Curcus` on railway land on a large scale from the year 2003-04 onwards. During 2003-04, 24 lakh Jatropha have been planted on railway land. Another 57 lakh trees have been planned for the current year 2004-05.

(c) : Zonal Railways have been advised to vigorously take up plantation of `Jatropha Curcas` on railway land. Progress of plantation is also monitored regularly on Railways/ in Railway Board. Apart from departmental effort, plantation of Jatropha has also been taken under `commercial plantation` scheme.